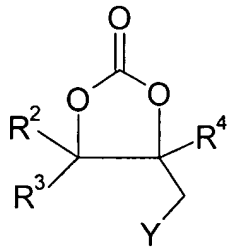
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Original) Process of forming an organic compound wherein

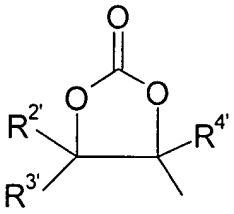
(a) a component (A) containing at least one cyclic carbonate group having the general formula (I):



(I)

wherein:

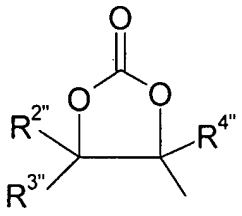
R^2, R^3 and R^4 are, each independently, chosen from hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, wherein alkyl and alkenyl may contain from 0 to 8 ether bridges, and/or may be substituted by one or more aryl, hydroxyl group, and/or cyclic carbonate group of formula (II)



(II)

wherein $R^{2'}$, $R^{3'}$ and $R^{4'}$ are, each independently, chosen from hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, wherein alkyl and alkenyl may contain from 0 to 8 ether bridges, and/or may be substituted by one or more aryl, hydroxyl group and/or Y group;

Y is an electrophilic group selected from ammonium $-N^+(R^1)(R^{1'})(R^{1''})Z^-$ and phosphonium $-P^+((O)_nR^1)((O)_nR^{1'})((O)_nR^{1''})Z^-$, wherein each n, independently, is 0 or 1 and each R^1, $R^{1'}$ and $R^{1''}$, independently, represents an alkyl optionally substituted by one or more aryl, Y group and/or cyclic carbonate group of formula (III)



(III)

wherein $R^{2"}$, $R^{3"}$ and $R^{4"}$ are, each independently, chosen from hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, wherein alkyl and alkenyl may contain from 0 to 8 ether bridges, and/or may be substituted by one or more aryl and/or hydroxyl group;

Z^- represents an anion;

(b) is reacted with ammonia, hydrazine or an organic compound (B) containing at least one reactive nucleophilic function X wherein each X is, independently, chosen from a primary amino or hydrazo , secondary amino or hydrazo , thiol , hydroxy, and/or oxime;

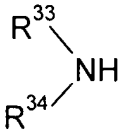
(c) such that the cyclic carbonate is opened and that an organic compound (C) containing at least one unit of the general formula -X-CO-O- is formed.

Claim 2 (Original) Process according to claim 1, wherein component (A) contains at least two carbonate cycles.

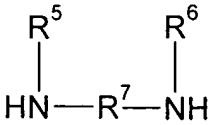
Claim 3 (Currently Amended) Process according to ~~any of claims 1 or 2~~ claim 1, wherein component (A) is chosen from 4- (trimethylammoniummethyl)-1,3-dioxolane-2-one, 4-(N-benzyl-N,N-dimethylammoniummethyl)-1,3-dioxolane-2-one and the tetracarbonate made starting from the tetraglycidylether of metaxylylenediamine.

Claim 4 (Original) Process according to claim 1, wherein an organic compound (B) which contains at least one nucleophilic function X which is an amino group is used.

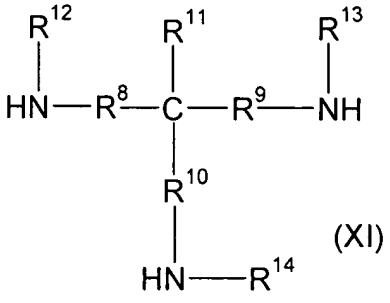
Claim 5 (Original) Process according to claim 4, wherein component (B) is an amine of formula (IX), (X), (XI) or (XII)



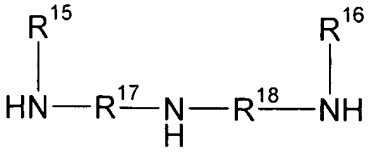
(IX)



(X)



(XI)



(XII)

wherein

R^{33} is an alkyl, optionally substituted by hydroxy, tertiary amine and/or aryl, and optionally containing from 1 to 20 ether bridges and/or from 1 to 3 tertiary amine bridges,

R^{34}, R^5, R^6, R^{12}, R^{13}, R^{14}, R^{15} and R^{16} are, independently, chosen from the group of

- hydrogen, and
- alkyl, optionally substituted by hydroxy, tertiary amine and/or aryl, and optionally containing from 1 to 8 ether bridges and/or from 1 to 3 tertiary amine bridges,
- with the proviso that, respectively, R^{33} and R^{34} , R^5 and R^6 , R^{12} and/or R^{13} and/or R^{14}, R^{15} and R^{16} may be linked together in order to form a ring,

R^7, R^8, R^9, R^{10}, R^{17} and R^{18} are, independently, chosen from alkylene, alkenylene, arylene and aralkylene chains which may contain from 1 to 8 ether bridges and/or from 1 to 3 tertiary amine bridges,

R^{11} is hydrogen or alkyl.

Claim 6 (Original) Process according to claim 4, wherein component (B) contains at least two primary or secondary amino groups.

Claim 7 (Original) Process according to claim 4, wherein compound (B) is an amine chosen amongst cyclohexylamine, N-methylbutylamine, N-methylbenzylamine, piperidine, piperazine, morpholine, benzylamine, diethylenetriamine, ethanolamine, diethanolamine and polyoxyalkylene amines and diamines.

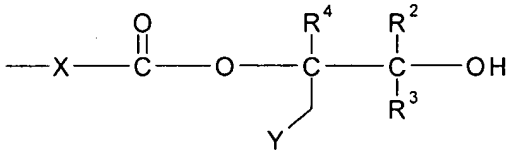
Claim 8 (Original) Process according to claim 1, wherein the reaction temperature is comprised between 0 and 120°C.

Claim 9 (Original) Process according to claim 1, wherein the amount of component (A) and compound (B) are such that the molar ratio of cyclic carbonate groups to nucleophilic groups X is from 0.5 to 2.

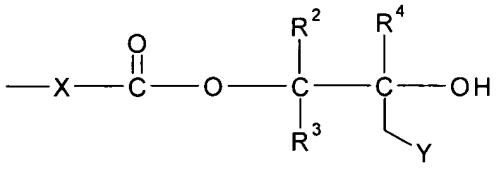
Claim 10 (Original) Process according to claim 1, wherein the reaction is made in a solvent chosen among: alcohol, ether, ester, dimethylformamide, dimethylsulfoxide, N-methylpyrolidone and water.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended) Process according to claim 1, wherein component (A) is prepared by reacting compounds (A) where the electrophilic group Y is chloride or bromide or iodide with a nucleophilic compound ~~such as a tertiary (trialkyl)amine, or a trialkyl phosphine or phosphite~~.

Claim 12 (Original) Products obtainable by the process according to claim 1 comprising at least one –X-CO-O- group and a hydroxy group in β-position of said –X-CO-O- group and at least one Y-group according to at least one of the structures



or



wherein X, R^2, R^3, R^4 and Y are such as defined in claim 1 or, in case R^2, R^3, R^4 and Y contain a cyclic carbonate group themselves, the structures resulting from the ring-opening of said cyclic carbonate group.

Claim 13 (Original) Products according to claim 12 wherein X is N.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended) Products according to claim 13 ~~responding~~ corresponding to one of the following formula or their mixtures.

Claim 15 (New) Process according to claim 11, wherein the nucleophilic compound is a tertiary (trialkyl)amine, trialkylphosphine or phosphite.